

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6141

BILL NUMBER: HB 1022

NOTE PREPARED: Jan 26, 2006

BILL AMENDED: Jan 17, 2006

SUBJECT: State Fair Commission.

FIRST AUTHOR: Rep. Ruppel

FIRST SPONSOR: Sen. Merritt

BILL STATUS: As Passed House

FUNDS AFFECTED: X **GENERAL**
DEDICATED
FEDERAL

IMPACT: State

Summary of Legislation: This bill adds the Director of the Indiana Department of Agriculture to the State Fair Commission. The bill authorizes the chair of the State Fair Advisory Committee or a member of the committee designated by the chair to serve as an ex officio, nonvoting member of the State Fair Commission.

It provides that the term of certain members of the Commission begins October 1 and expires September 30 of the fourth year following the appointment. A member currently serving on the Commission is extended for an additional three months.

It also specifies that a legislative member of the Commission is entitled to receive the per diem, mileage, and travel allowances established by the Legislative Council and paid to members of the General Assembly serving on interim study committees.

(The introduced version of this bill was prepared by the State Fair Advisory Committee.)

Effective Date: Upon passage.

Explanation of State Expenditures: The bill adds a state employee from the Department of Agriculture to the Commission. Each member who is a state employee is entitled to reimbursement for traveling expenses and other expenses actually incurred in connection with the member's duties. The Commission typically meets monthly. The state employee expenses are expected to be less than \$500 and would likely be paid from the Department of Agriculture budget.

The bill also provides that the legislative member appointed to the Commission is entitled to receive the same per diem, mileage, and travel allowances established by the Legislative Council and paid to members of the General Assembly serving on interim study committees. Per diem, mileage, and travel allowances must be paid from appropriations made to the Legislative Council or the Legislative Services Agency. Total additional expenses are estimated at less than \$3,000.

Background Information. The Commission is a separate body, corporate and politic. The Commission is not a state agency. Currently, the Commission consists of eight members. Each member who is not a state employee is entitled to per diem. Such a member is entitled to reimbursement for travel expenses and other expenses actually incurred in connection with the member's duties. Each member who is a state employee is entitled to reimbursement for traveling expenses and other expenses actually incurred in connection with the member's duties. Existing statute specifies that the Commission must pay expenses of the Commission.

Also under existing law, the Commission must submit an annual report to the Governor, the Budget Committee, and the General Assembly. The report must set forth a complete operating and financial statement of the Commission for the year.

The Commission does not receive appropriations from the state General Fund. However, for 2005, the State Fair Commission received approximately \$6.2 M in riverboat revenue; \$350,000 in parimutuel off-track betting revenue; and approximately \$2.3 M from the state property tax. For 2005, the Commission had a budget of \$12.2 M, with expenses totaling \$10.5 M and with a capital projects budget of \$1.7 M.

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures:

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: State Fair Commission, Legislative Council, Legislative Services Agency.

Local Agencies Affected:

Information Sources: Mark Hindsley, Controller, State Fair Commission, 927-7517.

Fiscal Analyst: Bernadette Bartlett, 317-232-9586.